Subsidy given to Delhi Milk Scheme

1076. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of subsidy being given to the Delhi Milk Supply Scheme during the year; and

(b) what are the reasons for Milk and Milk products order being imposed and the logic behind it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) No subsidy is being given to Delhi Milk Scheme. However, deficit incurred by DMS is being met by the Government by way of budgetary allocations, and the same is being reflected in accummulated losses incurred by it.

(b) The Government has been concerned about that denial of a fair price to the farmers for the milk sold my them usually to middle-men and contractors. At the same time, the Government has been conscious of the need to increase the availability of liquid milk of good quality to the general public at reasonable price, particularly, during the lean season and in milk deficit areas. It has also been the Government's view that farmer-owned dairy cooperatives in the country need to be actively supported and strengthened to enable them to increase their production and promote their financial viability. Against this background the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying) has issued on 9.6.92 the Milk and Milk Product Order, 1992 under the provision of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. This order primarily seeks to regulate the production, supply and distribution of milk and milk products throughout the country with a view to maintain an increased supply of liquid milk of desired quality at reasonable rates in the interest of general public.

Social and ecological impact of farm policy

1077. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of a recent report of a survey on social and ecological impact of current cultivation practices in the country as reported in the Hindustan Times, dated 1st October, 1993 captiononed "Experts say—Farm Policy Disastrous";

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM)- (a) and (b) The News Items has referred to a report of a survey on social and ecological impact of current cultivation practices, brought out by Research Foundation for Science, Technology and Natural Resources Policy Dehradun. According to the News Item, changes in government policy regarding food and fertilisers subsidies would lead to reral destabilization and destroy farmers and farming.

(c) The government has taken several steps including decenalisation of imports of DAP and MOP fertilisers, concessions to fertilisers industry, concessional sale of P&K fertilisers to reduce fertilisers prices. The minimum support prices of major agricultural commodities have also been increased considering the impact of increase in fertilisers prices on cost of production. The Public Distribution System has been strengthened and expanded to cover the vulnerable and poorer section of the community.

Decanalisation of Export Milks

1078. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to decanalise exports of milk products which has been hitherto canalised through NDDB; and

(b) if so, what decision has been taken in this regard; and what are the facts and circumstances leading to this decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b) with